

generators. The information provided on NRC Form 542 permits the States and Compacts to know the original generators of low-level waste, as authorized by the Low-Level Radioactive Waste Policy Amendments Act of 1985, so they can ensure that waste is disposed of in the appropriate Compact.

A copy of the final supporting statement may be viewed free of charge at the NRC Public Document Room, 2120 L Street, NW (lower level), Washington, DC. OMB clearance requests are available at the NRC worldwide web site (<http://www.nrc.gov>) under the FedWorld collection link on the home page tool bar. The document will be available on the NRC home page site for 60 days after the signature date of this notice.

Comments and questions should be directed to the OMB reviewer by April 10, 1998:

Martin Offutt, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs (3150-0164, -0165, -0166), NEOB-10202, Office of Management and Budget, Washington, DC 20503.

Comments can also be submitted by telephone at (202) 395-3084.

The NRC Clearance Officer is Brenda Jo. Shelton, 301-415-7233.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 5th day of March 1998.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

Brenda Jo. Shelton,

NRC Clearance Officer, Office of the Chief Information Officer.

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NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

[Docket Nos. 50-424 and 50-425]

Southern Nuclear Operating Company, Inc., et al. (Vogtle Electric Generating Plant, Units 1 and 2); Exemption

I

Southern Nuclear Operating Company, Inc., et al. (the licensee) is the holder of Facility Operating License Nos. NPF-68 and NPF-81, for the Vogtle Electric Generating Plant (VEGP), Units 1 and 2, respectively. The licenses provide, among other things, that the licensee is subject to all rules, regulations, and orders of the Commission now or hereafter in effect.

The VEGP facility consists of two pressurized-water reactors located at the licensee's site in Burke County, Georgia.

II

Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR), Section 50.71,

"Maintenance of records, making of reports," paragraph (e)(4) states, in part, that "Subsequent revisions [to the Final Safety Analysis Report (FSAR)] must be filed annually or 6 months after each refueling outage provided that the interval between successive updates [to the FSAR] does not exceed 24 months." The VEGP, Units 1 and 2, share a common FSAR; therefore, this rule requires the licensee to update the same document within 6 months after a refueling outage for either unit. By letter dated January 23, 1998, the licensee requested an exemption from the requirements of 10 CFR 50.71(e)(4).

III

Section 50.12(a) of 10 CFR, "Specific exemptions," states that:

The Commission may, upon application by any interested person, or upon its own initiative, grant exemptions from the requirements of the regulations of this part, which are (1) Authorized by law, will not present an undue risk to the public health and safety, and are consistent with the common defense and security. (2) The Commission will not consider granting an exemption unless special circumstances are present.

Section 50.12(a)(2)(ii) of 10 CFR states that special circumstances are present when "Application of the regulation in the particular circumstances would not serve the underlying purpose of the rule or is not necessary to achieve the underlying purpose of the rule. . . ." As noted in the staff's supporting Safety Evaluation, the licensee's proposed schedule for FSAR updates will ensure that the VEGP FSAR will be maintained current within 24 months of the last revision and the interval for submission of the 10 CFR 50.59 design change report will not exceed 24 months. The proposed schedule fits within the 24-month duration specified by 10 CFR 50.71(e)(4). Literal application of 10 CFR 50.71(e)(4) would require the licensee to update the same document within 6 months after a refueling outage for either unit; a more burdensome requirement than intended. Accordingly, the Commission has determined that special circumstances are present as defined in 10 CFR 50.12(a)(2)(ii). The Commission has further determined that, pursuant to 10 CFR 50.12, the exemption is authorized by law, will not present an undue risk to public health and safety, and is consistent with the common defense and security. The Commission hereby grants the licensee an exemption from the requirements of 10 CFR 50.71(e)(4) to submit updates to the VEGP FSAR within 6 months of the VEGP Unit 2 refueling outage. The licensee will be

required to submit updates to the VEGP FSAR within 6 months after the Unit 2 refueling outage. With the current length of fuel cycles, FSAR updates would be submitted every 18 months, but not to exceed 24 months from the last submittal.

Pursuant to 10 CFR 51.32, the Commission has determined that the granting of this exemption will have no significant effect on the quality of the human environment (63 FR 10248).

This exemption is effective upon issuance.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 5th day of March 1998.

Samuel J. Collins,

Director, Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation.

[FR Doc. 98-6214 Filed 3-10-98; 8:45 am]

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NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

Advisory Committee on Nuclear Waste; Notice of Meeting

The Advisory Committee on Nuclear Waste (ACNW) will hold its 95th meeting on March 23-25, 1998, Room T-2B3, 11545 Rockville Pike, Rockville, Maryland.

The entire meeting will be open to public attendance.

The schedule for this meeting is as follows:

Monday, March 23, 1998—8:30 A.M. until 6:00 P.M.

Tuesday, March 24, 1998—8:30 A.M. until 6:00 P.M.

Wednesday, March 25, 1998—8:30 A.M. until 4:00 P.M.

A. Meeting with Commissioner

McGaffigan—The Committee will meet with the Commissioner to discuss items of mutual interest.

B. Nuclear Waste Related Research—The Committee will review various aspects of waste-related research underway or planned in preparation for sending a report to the Commission. Participants may include representatives of the NRC staff, the nuclear industry, and possibly individuals representing foreign programs.

C. Decommissioning Guidance—The Committee will review proposed guidance for implementing the recent final rule on radiological criteria for license termination. Guidance to be reviewed will include documents on: surveys, dose modeling, restricted release criteria, and ALARA (as low as is reasonably achievable) criteria.